

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT.

Re: New Message Rate System for Telephones.

Sri Mulka GOVINDA REDDY (Chital-drug).—Sir, today I have tabled an adjournment motion regarding the new message rate system for telephones that has come into force from the morning of 16th March 1955. I have tabled an adjournment motion. If you will permit me, I will explain how it is of public importance. . . .

Mr. SPEAKER.—We will take it up tomorrow.

Statement by Minister.

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA (Minister for Home and Industries).—Sir, yesterday, I made a small mistake when I gave out the ruling prices of commodities. For horse gram the prevailing rate is Rs. 20 to Rs. 21 per palla. But by mistake I mentioned it as Rs. 30 to Rs. 31 per palla. I beg to be excused for the same.

Members' right to free use of Telephones.

Mr. SPEAKER.—About the new message rate system, I find it concerns the Hon'ble Members immediately. If any arrangement has to be made for their convenience, I would like to know the same. I want to know if anything can be done before going through the procedure and all that.

Sri Mulka GOVINDA REDDY.—My adjournment motion is pertaining to the rules of the message rate system that has been introduced in Bangalore from the early hours of today. Formerly, before 1951, we were paying Rs. 10, as rental per month for a telephone, to the Mysore Government.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Government was paying.

*** Sri Mulka GOVINDA REDDY.**—The public that owned telephones in Bangalore were paying Rs. 10 per month as rental before 1951. After it was integrated with the Government of India, with the Post and Telegraphs

Department, it was enhanced from Rs. 10 per month which we were paying. Now, from today, in addition to paying Rs. 10 per month. . . .

Mr. SPEAKER.—Before taking up this adjournment motion, I want to know whether any inconvenience has been caused to the Hon'ble Members, so that it can be set right. Tomorrow we will take up the adjournment motion.

Sri J. MOHAMED IMAM.—We have to pay for it. That is the most inconvenient thing.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Because it touches the pocket of the Hon'ble Members.

*** Sri J. MOHAMED IMAM.**—Under the rules we are entitled to free furnished lodging. The Speaker has to decide whether free furnished lodging will not also include telephones. We are entitled for free furnished quarters with all amenities including kitchen utensils and all essential amenities that are necessary for legislators. Telephone is also a necessity for every legislator to discharge his duty because he has to be in touch with so many prominent persons and officers and many public men also want to contact us. So, the service of a telephone is absolutely necessary for every legislator in order to enable him to discharge his duty better and more efficiently and also to serve the public more effectively. Further the definition of free furnished quarters also includes telephone.

*** Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK** (Molakalmuru).—Does the supply of free arc include free supply of radio to a Minister? Because, very recently in the Gazette it was published that the Minister was entitled to fix a radio and all that at the cost of Government. So, this is also another kind of radio for which a member is entitled to free supply.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I understand the point. It is a matter of interpretation of the rules and we have to be guided by the present rules till they are amended. It is purely a matter of interpretation of the rules now in force and we will always try to interpret the rules in favour of the members, but we cannot by pass the rules.